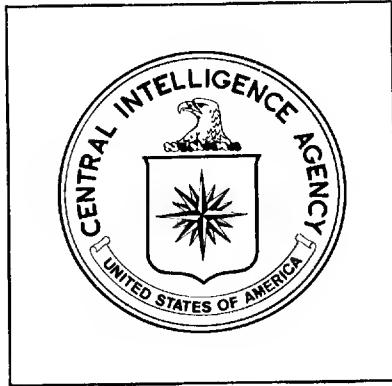


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## Middle East-Africa-South Asia

### STAFF NOTES

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North Yemen

*Foes of Hamdi Stirring*

Opponents of Command Council Chairman Lieutenant Colonel Ibrahim Hamdi, who have been quiescent in recent weeks, have begun to cause new problems for the North Yemeni strongman.

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A former command council member, Lieutenant Colonel Mujahid Abu Shuarib, has holed up in his home in tribal areas in the northern part of the country and is attempting to provoke clashes between tribesmen and government troops. A few exchanges of gunfire have occurred. Two soldiers were killed recently, but government forces have not taken any retaliatory action

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Abu Shuarib, brother-in-law of al-Ahmar--leader of North Yemen's largest tribal federation--has authored and distributed anti-Hamdi broadsides to tribesmen and military officers. The North Yemeni leader is accused of bringing "democracy" in the country to an end by not preparing the country for the election of a new consultative assembly.

Meanwhile, another old opponent of Hamdi, Sheikh Sinan Abu Luhum, has recently returned to North Yemen from his exile in Cairo. He went there earlier this year following Hamdi's successful purge of Abu Luhum family members from key military posts.

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Security officials have recently uncovered evidence of other anti-regime activity in the southern part of the country. Investigation of a murder in a

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small village near Taiz led to the discovery of documents dealing with the distribution of money, arms, and propaganda material from South Yemen to North Yemeni political groups opposed to Hamdi's rule. The documents indicated that a new organization called the "Resistors" has been created by Aden to unite these various groups.

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